

A NEW ANKOTHRIPS (THYSANOPTERA) FROM NEW MEXICO.

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In 1909 and 1910 three students of the Thysanoptera, situated in widely separated parts of the world, described almost simultaneously three species of *Æolothripidae* which were remarkable for certain structural characters previously unknown in the group. Each erected a new genus for the reception of the species known to him; yet, oddly enough, though coming from South Africa, Galicia and California, respectively, these three species were congeneric. *Ankothrips* D. L. Crawford, which has priority, therefore has as its synonyms *Dicranothrips* Trybom and *Prionoithrips* Schille.

The new species from New Mexico, described below, is thus the second North American member of the genus. Working with a description only of the exceedingly rare and imperfectly characterized European species (only four specimens are known), it is impossible to delimit the present form as sharply as might be wished; but perhaps the present description will lead to further publication on the subject. The following key to the known species may prove useful.

Genus ANKOTHRIPS Crawford.

1. Projection of vertex of head deeply bifid. (South Africa).
A. fissidens (Trybom)
- Projection of vertex not bifid 2
2. Segment 8 of antennae half as long as segment 7. (Europe).
A. niezabitowskii (Schille)
- Segment 8 of antennae much more than half as long as segment 7 3
3. Body robust; projection of second antennal segment not bifid; head, pronotum, and mesonotum not closely transversely striate; last two segments of abdomen with all bristles stout; legs shorter and stouter, the middle tibiae three times, and the hind tibiae five times, as long as wide. (California) *A. robustus* Crawford
- Body slender; projection of second antennal segment distinctly bifid; head, pronotum, and mesonotum exceedingly finely and closely transversely striate; last two segments of abdomen with bristles slender; legs much longer and slen-

derer, the middle tibiae more than four times, and the hind tibiae nearly seven times, as long as wide. (New Mexico) **A. diffractus** Hood

Ankothrips diffractus sp. nov.

Female (macropterous).—Length about 1.3 mm. Color nearly uniform light brown, the last three segments of abdomen darker; tarsi and antennal segments 1–3 paler, segment 1 darkened somewhat at sides, segment 2 darker in basal half and along sides, segment 3 infuscate apically.

Head about 1.1 times as wide as long, broadest just behind eyes, cheeks slightly converging to base; surface exceedingly closely transversely striate; occipital line distinct; projection overhanging insertion of antennae not bifid, bearing the two usual upwardly-directed bristles; frontal costa deeply notched; a pair of prominent interocellar bristles situated close to anterior margins of posterior ocelli; three pairs of prominent postocular bristles, the middle pair shortest. Eyes about as long as their distance from posterior margin of head, three-fourths as wide as their interval. Ocelli nearly equidistant, anterior ocellus directed forward. Antennae 2.5 times as long as head; projection on segment 2 serrate at sides, slightly bifid at tip. Maxillary palpi three-segmented, the segments 24, 21, and 14 microns long, respectively; labial palpi two-segmented, basal segment barely recognizable, distal segment slender, 19 microns long.

Prothorax about 1.75 times as wide as long, shorter than head; pronotum with surface deeply and exceedingly closely transversely striate like head, and with the usual rather prominent bristles on disk and margins, those on posterior margin longer and stouter than the others, except two quite prominent pairs at the posterior angles, midlaterals and those at anterior angles not well developed. Pterothorax wider than prothorax; striae of mesonotum as close as those of pronotum. Wings colorless, those of fore pair about eight times as long as wide, anterior margin with a short fringe beginning just before middle, the hairs becoming gradually longer toward tip of wing; anterior vein with about 27 bristles, posterior vein with about 20. Legs moderately long but quite slender, the middle tibiae more than four times as long as wide, and the hind tibiae nearly seven times as long as wide.

Abdomen slender, bristles on segments 9 and 10 decidedly slender and inconspicuous.

Measurements of holotype: Length 1.27 mm.; head, length 0.140 mm., width 0.156 mm.; prothorax, length 0.128 mm.,

width (inclusive of coxae) 0.225 mm.; pterothorax, width 0.270 mm.; abdomen, width 0.353 mm.; fore wings, length 0.855 mm.; width at middle 0.110 mm.

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|----------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Antennal segments | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| Length (μ) | 30 | 48 | 60 | 51 | 46 | 45 | 24 | 19 | 23 |
| Width (μ) | 35 | 28 | 21 | 18 | 20 | 20 | 16 | 13 | 10 |
| Total length of antenna 0.35 mm. | | | | | | | | | |

Described from eight females taken by Dr. Alex Wetmore, of the U. S. Biological Survey, at Lake Burford, New Mexico, at an elevation of 7,600 feet, on May 26, 1918. They were not uncommon in the flowers of *Cercocarpus montanus* Raf.

The general facies of this insect is that of a dark colored *Frankliniella*, such as *F. fusca* (Hinds). It is not likely to be confused with its congeners on account of its slender form and the very interesting sculpture of the head, pronotum, and mesonotum.

To Lepidopterists and Coleopterists.

This publication, as every other entomological journal, knows that the greater number of entomologists are students of the Lepidoptera and Coleoptera. We are always willing and anxious to publish a large proportion of papers and notes on these two orders, but we are able to print only what we receive. We especially invite lepidopterists and coleopterists to submit their shorter papers to us, for we can use them. Naturally, we will give preference to North American insects, and publish on other faunas only occasionally, if there is room. We trust that the activity in other orders may be emulated in the two major groups.

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